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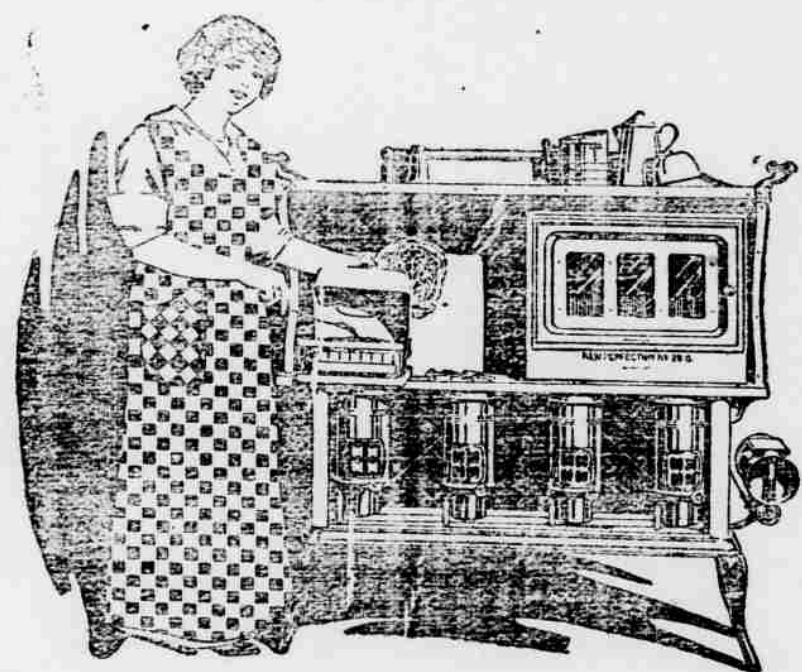
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NEW MINISTRY TO GUIDE THE EMPIRE

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR DIRECTING WAR IN PROCESS OF FORMATION.

PERSONNEL NOT ANNOUNCED

There Will Be a Complete Change of the Whole Government—Earl Kitchener Will Be Leader.

London.—The National Government which will guide the British Empire for the duration of the war is in progress of formation.

No statement as to the personnel of the new Ministry has been made except that Premier Asquith and Foreign Secretary Grey will retain their posts. Thus far all statements as to the allotment of offices have been largely surmise. It appears certain however that there will be a new civil head of the Admiralty and War Office respectively and possibly changes in the professional heads as well, or at any rate, a readjustment of responsibility.

Earl Kitchener, Secretary for War, it is generally agreed, has too much to do, raising new armies and seeing after the output of munitions and some of these duties will be shifted to other shoulders. Chancellor Lloyd George and Andrew Monar Law, opposition leader, are about equally favored for civil head of the War Office and A. J. Balfour is mentioned for a similar position in the Admiralty. There is some doubt as to whether Mr. Balfour would consent to accept this place.

However, there is to be a complete change in the whole Government, including not only the Cabinet, but the under-secretaries as well, and posts will be distributed among the Liberals, Unionists and Laborites, according to their strength in the House of Commons. The Nationalists, it is understood, have decided to stand aside. T. P. O'Connor, in an article in his weekly newspaper says that John E. Redmond, the Nationalists leader, respectfully refused the offer of a seat in the Cabinet and adds:

"I have no doubt he felt that such a refusal was imposed upon him by the conditions of Irish public life. The Irish party has a long unbroken tradition behind it of single-minded and self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of Ireland and probably many of Mr. Redmond's countrymen might think he would have broken that tradition or he at least would be charged with breaking it were he to take any office until home rule has been established."

GREAT BRITAIN EXPLAINS DELAY

Government Endeavors to Correct Misunderstanding of Attitude.

London.—In an effort to correct what the Government believes to be a misunderstanding of Great Britain's attitude toward American ships and American cargoes in other neutral bottoms detained under the order-in-council the Foreign Office has issued an explanatory memorandum.

This explanation is supplemented by a statement that cotton cargoes which the Government agreed to purchase under the cotton agreement have all been bought by the Government and that actual details concerning the payment only await proof of ownership and papers showing the actual contract price. It is explained that as most of these papers must come from the United States there will still be some unavoidable delays before the owners of the cotton get their money.

AN AGRICULTURAL COUNCIL

By T. N. Carver, Professor of Economics, Harvard University.

Every city has its chamber of commerce or its Board of Trade. The purpose of such an organization is to study economic and business opportunities of the city and promote enterprises which will help to build the city. Does any one know of a good and sufficient reason why every rural neighborhood ought not have a similar organization?

In Germany they already have such organizations. They are generally called the "Landwirtschaftsrath" or agricultural council. Some students of the problem of rural organization are strongly of the opinion that such an agricultural council is necessary before much can be done for the bettering of rural credit or the marketing of farm produce. There is no object, for example, in having more capital in a farming neighborhood unless the farmers know without any guess-work just how to use that capital so as to increase the production and the profit of their farms. If all the leading farmers of a neighborhood would lay their heads together and talk over the situation and study the opportunities for new investment, they would be less likely to make mistakes than if they work secretly, as separate individuals.

CIVILIZATION'S GREATEST TRAGEDY.

Extract from article by W. D. Lewis, president Texas Farmers' Union, opposing woman's suffrage:

"We are willing to join in every effort to elevate woman but will assist in none to drag her down. The descent of womanhood is the most awful tragedy in civilization. As she sinks she may, like the setting sun, tint the horizon with the rays of her departing glory. She may tenderly kiss the mountain tops of her achievement farewell; she may, like the sinking sun, allure the populace with her beauty as she disappears for the night but when she steps downward, the earth is as certain to tremble and plunge into darkness as death is to follow life."

PRESIDENT WILSON



President Wilson in the American note has put issue squarely up the German Government in firmly demanding a redress for past wrongs and a guarantee for neutral rights in the future.

BAPTISTS IN CONVENTION

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS WITHDRAWAL FROM BARACA MOVEMENT.

Hight C. Moore, of Raleigh, Re-Elected as one of the Secretaries of Woman's Auxiliary.

Houston, Texas.—Committee recommendations against the proposed consolidation of the home and foreign boards, inauguration of the movement to withdraw Baptist young people from the world-wide Baraca and Philathea classes and election of officers were features of the sixtieth annual session of the Southern Baptist convention.

Dr. Lansing Burrows of Americus, Ga., was re-elected president, and the following were elected vice presidents:

B. C. Henning, Elizabeth City, N. C.; John Crumpton Hardy, Waco, Texas; J. L. Gross, Houston, Texas; P. C. Barton, Jonesboro, Ark.

The two secretaries of the convention were re-elected. They were: O. F. Gregory, Baltimore, and H. C. Moore, Raleigh, N. C.

All elections were unanimous. There were 1,095 registered delegates to the convention and 360 in the meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union. Those who attended the opening of the convention included representatives of Southern Baptist churches in every Southern state and delegates from Southern Illinois where many Baptist churches are affiliated with the Southern convention. Representatives of the National Baptist convention (negro) were also present.

The convention sermon was delivered by Dr. J. W. Porter of Lexington, Ky. In his sermon Dr. Porter protested against universities becoming secular organizations.

Strangely enough, our universities have proven our religious storm centers," he said. "From them have come the report of Miss Althea Moore for sweet charity's sake, we call higher critics, but who are in reality enemies of the Cross."

The report opposing the world-wide movement known as the Baraca and Philathea classes for young men and young women, respectively, was made by the Sunday school board. These classes are interdenominational and are found in many Baptist Sunday schools. The report suggested that in place of them, all classes, regardless of class name, be affiliated in the convention adult class department with the motto, "The Bible and the Church."

The Woman's Missionary Union, an auxiliary to the convention, opened its twenty-seventh annual convention with various committee meetings. The auxiliary convention was formally called to order by Mrs. E. B. Mathews, of Baltimore, vice president for Maryland. Miss Fannie E. S. Heck of Raleigh, N. C., president of the union for a number of years is seriously ill and unable to attend the present session.

RIOTERS ATTACK GERMANS.

London Shop Windows Smashed and Proprietors Driven From Premises.

London.—The sinking of the steamer Lusitania has aroused to a violent climax the smoldering hatred and suspicion of Germans living in England. The animosity has found expression during the last 24 hours in attacks on Germans and their shops in London and Liverpool while there have been minor disturbances in Manchester, Edinburgh, Glasgow and a few other places.

Riggs Bank Case Postponed.

Washington.—Hearing of the case of the Riggs National Bank against Secretary McAdoo, Comptroller Williams and Treasurer Burke was postponed until May 17 at the request of the government's attorneys.

West Virginia Legislature.

Huntington, W. Va.—Governor Hatfield called the West Virginia legislature to meet in special session May 18 primarily for enactment of laws to increase revenues.

No Hope For Italy.

London.—Any lingering hope that Italy would maintain her neutrality was abandoned when the Italian chamber conferred on the government extraordinary powers in the event of war's outbreak. This is considered a vote for war, for which the government has made all preparations and the prospects of which have aroused the great enthusiasm throughout Italy. The German and Austrian ministers were still in Rome but their one care now is to arrange for the safety of their nationals.

TOLL AMONG FIRST CLASS PASSENGERS

LARGE PROPORTION OF CREW SAVED BUT NO LACK OF DISCIPLINE WAS EVIDENCED.

14-YEAR OLD GIRL HEROINE

Stories of Heroic Work of Rescue Among the Passengers of the Ill-fated Ocean Liner.

Queenstown.—In striking contrast to most historic sea disasters, the rate of mortality among first class passengers of the Lusitania seems to be heavier than among any other class on board. A large proportion of those saved are members of the crew, but this is not evidence of lack of discipline, as most of them were picked up from the water. The captain of a tugboat who arrived in the harbor soon after the accident with 144 survivors, mostly women and children, when reproached for not staying longer on the chance of picking up more survivors, said:

"There were many left in the water, but they were dead and many were so mangled I thought it better to bring ashore my boat load of suffering women, as they could not have stood much more."

Those women presented pitiful sight as they wandered aimlessly about, searching without hope for loved ones who must have gone down with the ship.

Relatives and friends of passengers who had gone in high spirits to Liverpool to meet the incoming ship, began to arrive here to search for the missing, but the small roll of survivors meant heartbreaking disappointment for most of them.

The brief time elapsing between the torpedoing and sinking of the Lusitania was long enough to develop a heroine in the person of Mrs. Kathleen Kaya, 24 years old, returning from New York where she had been visiting relatives. With smiling words and reassurance, she aided stewards in filling a boat with women and children.

When all were in she climbed aboard the lifeboat as coolly as an able seaman. One sailor pointed at his car and the girl took his place. None among the survivors bears as little sign of her terrible experiences as Miss Kaya.

The dragging of the lifeboats was explained by passengers and members of the crew by the statement that the second torpedo severed several steam pipes from the engines. The Lusitania had been sent full speed ahead when the first torpedo was seen and it was impossible to stop the headway by reversing the engines when the necessity for lowering the boats was realized.

The most remarkable escape was that of R. J. Timmils of Gainesville, Texas, who was returning to England for his yearly visit accompanied by his child R. T. Moodie, also of Gainesville. Both men gave their life-belts to steerage women just as the Lusitania sank. Timmils, who is a strong swimmer, remained in the water, clinging to various objects, for nearly three hours. Then he was taken into a boat which he still had the strength to assist in rowing.

The boat began picking up from the water all those showing signs of life and the first person rescued was the half-unconscious steerage woman to whom Timmils had given his life-belt. Moodie sank when the ship went under, and although he was a good swimmer, he was not seen again. Moodie was all ready to jump when Timmils, who had previously given his belt to a woman, said:

"There is a steerage woman here with a six-months-old baby." Moodie promptly stripped off his life-belt, but it seems both he and the woman perished.

Dr. J. T. Houghton of Troy, N. Y., a survivor, said there was no reason to fear any danger after the first explosion, as it was believed the vessel would be headed for Queenstown and beached if necessary. Just then said Doctor Houghton, the liner again was struck, evidently in a more vital spot, for it began to settle rapidly.

Orders then came from the bridge to lower all boats. Women became panic-stricken. People were pushed into the boats, some of which were launched successfully, others not so successfully.

G. D. Lane, a youthful but cool-headed second cabin passenger who was returning to Wales from New York, was in a lifeboat which capsized. "I was on the 'B' deck," he said, "when I saw the wake of the torpedo. I rushed to get a life-belt but stopped to help get children on the boat deck."

The second cabin was a veritable nursery. Many youngsters must have drowned, but I saw one boat get away filled with women and children. When the water reached the deck I saw another life-boat with a vacant seat, which I took as no one else was in sight. The Lusitania heeled so suddenly our boat was swamped but we righted her again.

"We witnessed the most horrible scene of human utility it is possible to imagine. When the Lusitania had turned almost over she suddenly plunged bow foremost into the water, leaving her stern high in the air."

Freight Agents Adjourn.

Richmond, Va.—The American Association of Freight Agents adjourned its twenty-eighth annual convention here after selecting Cincinnati, Ohio, as next year's meeting place and electing the following officers for the ensuing year:

President, H. J. Griffing, Mobile, Ala.; vice president, J. L. Harrington, Omaha, Neb.; second vice president, P. L. Kemp, Chicago, Ill.; secretary, R. O. Wells, St. Louis, Mo.; treasurer, C. E. Fish, Cincinnati.

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